

SUMMARY: Democratic Homeland Security Amendment

After being defeated by Republicans in the Appropriations Committee on a \$2.5 billion homeland security amendment, Democrats will attempt to force a full House vote on their legislation as part of the Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Bill. The following is a summary of just some of the items included in that package.

Priority/Proposed Add	Bush Inaction	Reason This Must Be Done
PROTECTING OUR TROOPS		
<u>Protecting Military Facilities:</u> \$197 million	Bush requested no money for this.	Each of the services has submitted a detailed list of unfunded military construction projects that are required to insure the security of military installations located in the United States. These projects tend to be relatively simple upgrades that can be executed within the year that funds are received.
PORT/INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY		
<u>Coast Guard:</u> \$190 million	Bush requested no money for this.	This funding would bring 2,000 additional personnel proposed by President Bush for FY 2004 on board immediately and grow the Coast Guard back to the level it was in 1982. Additionally this funding would be used to expand the security system currently in Norfolk to 11 additional ports nationwide.
<u>Port Security Grants:</u> \$250 million	Bush requested no money for this despite the Coast Guard reporting that it needs almost \$1 billion this year alone to secure ports.	This funding will be used for ports to make facility improvements and conduct vulnerability assessments. Even with this added funding, only \$690 million will have been provided to date for this purpose.
<u>Infrastructure Security:</u> \$132 million	Bush requested no money for this and vetoed \$108 million for this in 2002.	These funds will help fulfill security needs for dams, bridges and other critical infrastructure identified more than a year ago by the Army Corps of Engineers.
<u>Water /Chemical Plant Security:</u> \$100 million	Bush requested no money for this.	According to a March 2003 GAO report, the federal government has not comprehensively assessed the chemical industry's vulnerabilities to terrorist attacks. This money would be used by EPA to assess the vulnerability of those chemical plants within populations of 100,000 or more with worst-case accidental release scenarios. It would also be used to assess the vulnerability of local water systems to terrorist infiltration.
<u>Rail Tunnel Security:</u> \$50 million	Bush requested no money for this.	Amtrak has a approximately \$780 million in unmet security upgrades to tunnels they own that run into and out of New York City, Baltimore and Washington, DC. A potential terrorist action could be catastrophic due to inadequate evacuation shafts, lighting, communications equipment, ventilation and security.

SUMMARY: Democratic Homeland Security Amendment (continued)

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STATE/LOCAL FIRST RESPONSE		
<u>State/Local Civil Defense Teams:</u> \$160 million	Bush requested no money for this.	Congress authorized the establishment of 55 National Guard Civil Support Teams to assist state and local first responders, but only 32 have been created and funded. These teams provide immediate assistance to local authorities especially in cases involving weapons of mass destruction. These funds would cover the start-up costs for 18 additional Civil Support Teams, including additional personnel and equipment
<u>First Responders:</u> \$300 million	Bush requested \$2 billion for the Office of Domestic Preparedness, which is far less than needed.	Funding will continue to help alleviate the shortfalls at the state and local level for increased homeland security.
<u>First Responder Equipment:</u> \$350 million	Bush requested no money for this	This funding would be for local first responders to purchase equipment so that they can communicate with one another during a disaster. Currently, only 2/5 of fire departments can communicate with all of their partners. Some estimate that as much as \$10 billion is needed to ensure nation-wide interoperability of equipment.
<u>Firefighter Grants:</u> \$150 million	Bush requested no money for this	This would bring fire grants up to the \$900 million authorized for this program. A Dec. 2002 Needs Assessment of the US Fire Service found that: overall, fire departments do not have enough portable radios to equip more than about half of the emergency responders on a shift; about 1/3 of firefighters per shift are not equipped with self-contained breathing apparatus, only 2/5th of fire departments can communicate with all of their partners, and nearly half of all fire departments have no map coordinate system.
<u>State/Local Bio-Chemical Response:</u> \$150 million	Bush requested no money for this.	Half of these funds will go to CDC the other half to EPA. These funds would be used by these agencies to help state health laboratories develop capacity to rapidly detect the presence of chemical terrorism agents. So far, funding for this purpose has been provided to only five states. These states need additional assistance, many more state labs need to develop this capacity, and CDC needs to continue development of analytic techniques.
<u>Military Guard and Reserves:</u> \$66 million	Bush requested no money for this.	These funds will allow the Army Reserves to provide emergency medical facilities and personnel in cases of disasters created by weapons of mass destruction. Shortfalls in the Army reserve budget for training and relocating deployable military hospitals currently limit the Reserves ability to meet this mission.

SUMMARY: Democratic Homeland Security Amendment (CONTINUED)

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NUCLEAR SECURITY		
<u>Nuclear Cargo Detection:</u> \$135 million	Bush requested no money for this and vetoed \$260 million for nuclear security in August of 2002.	The Department of Energy has performed an analysis of shipping to the United States, and has identified 60 foreign "mega seaports" overseas where goods/containers from many nations first go before they are shipped to the United States. DOE has developed nuclear detectors that can be given to port authorities in such mega seaports in conjunction with U.S. Customs, which provide port-wide alertment of nuclear material. DOE is in the process of deploying the first radiological detection system to a foreign mega seaport, but has no funds appropriated in fiscal year 2003 or budgeted in fiscal year 2004 for this purpose. These new funds would provide detection equipment for 9 additional mega seaports, for a total of 10, allowing screening of approximately half of all containerized shipping entering the country.
<u>Securing Nuclear Materials Abroad:</u> \$10 million	Bush requested no money for this and vetoed \$260 million for nuclear security in August of 2002.	The use of radioactive materials for peaceful purposes is widespread. They have many beneficial industrial, agricultural, research, and medical applications. On March 11 the Secretary of Energy addressed an International Atomic Energy Agency meeting which he convened to discuss the menace of dirty bombs and the need to recover, account for, store, and dispose of radioactive sources. The Secretary offered the assistance of the U.S. government to representatives of over 100 nations, and my amendment provides him the funds to make good on his offer.
<u>Securing Domestic Nuclear Material:</u> \$87 million	Bush requested no money for this and vetoed \$260 million for nuclear security in August of 2002.	The Department of Energy is operating under a higher security level due to the conflict in Iraq and it needs additional funds to finance the requisite security activities. DOE facilities not only have nuclear weapons, but they also have radioactive, explosive, and other toxic materials that would be of interest to terrorists.
<u>Nuclear Detection Equipment:</u> \$9 million	Bush requested no money for this and vetoed \$260 million for nuclear security in August of 2002.	These funds would assist DoE in improving technologies to detect shielded nuclear materials, field improved nuclear detectors for inspectors, and to improve analytical techniques for determining the origin of illicit nuclear materials or devices.